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PATENT

Attorney's Docket No. 8675-5

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Harris et al.
Appl. No.: 09/404,245
Filed: September 22, 1999
For: SPLITTABLE MULTICOMPONENT
ELASTOMERIC FIBERS

Confirmation No.:
Group Art Unit: 1771
Examiner: J. Befumo

May 7, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

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In The Claims:

17. (Twice amended) A fiber bundle comprising a plurality of bulked plastically deformed non-elastomeric microfilaments substantially surrounding and covering from view in an unstretched condition a plurality of elastomeric microfilaments that are shorter than and less bulky than said non-elastomeric microfilaments, said elastomeric and non-elastomeric microfilaments originating from a common multicomponent fiber having elastomeric and non-elastomeric components, wherein said elastomeric polymer has a solubility parameter (δ) sufficiently different from said non-elastomeric polymer so that said elastomeric component and said non-elastomeric component split upon thermal activation and further wherein the weight ratio of the non-elastomeric microfilaments within the fiber bundle is substantially identical to the weight ratio of the non-elastomeric component within the multicomponent fiber.

Cancel Claim 26.

28. (Twice amended) A fiber bundle comprising a plurality of bulked plastically deformed non-elastomeric polypropylene microfilaments substantially surrounding and covering